

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internati Application No

PCT/GB 03/02778

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G06F9/38 G06F9/318 G06F9/455 G06F9/45

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G06F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, INSPEC, IBM-TDB

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2002/013892 A1 (GORISHEK IV ET AL.) 31 January 2002 (2002-01-31)	1-4, 10-12, 33-35, 38, 39, 43
Y	paragraphs '0013!, '0016!-'0019!, '0104!	5-9, 13-32, 36, 37, 40-42
X	US 6 308 255 B1 (GORISHEK IV FRANK J ET AL) 23 October 2001 (2001-10-23)	1-4, 10-12, 33-35, 38, 39, 43
Y	column 3, line 39 -column 4, line 33; figures 4-7	5-9, 13-32, 36, 37, 40-42

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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

E earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

L document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

& document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

7 October 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

16/10/2003

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5 819 067 A (LYNCH THOMAS W) 6 October 1998 (1998-10-06) column 2, line 2 - line 62; claim 1 -----	5-9, 13-32, 36,37, 40-42
Y	US 6 298 434 B1 (LINDWER MENNO M) 2 October 2001 (2001-10-02) column 2, line 18 -column 3, line 42 -----	5-9, 13-32, 36,37, 40-42
A	US 6 031 992 A (WING MALCOLM JOHN ET AL) 29 February 2000 (2000-02-29) column 9, line 16 - line 65 column 11, line 19 -column 12, line 30; figure 2 -----	1-43

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Information on patent family members

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